

In Re. Patent Appln. of Chen, T. *et al.*
Serial No. 10/529,012

Supplemental Reply to the Official Action of January 26, 2006
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REMARKS

I. Status

Claims 1 and 21-41 were pending prior to the submission of the Supplemental Reply. Applicant has presently cancelled claims 23-26, 29-30, 34-38 and 40-41, and added new claims 42 and 43. Accordingly, claims 1, 21-22, 27-28, 31-33, 39 and 42-43 are presently pending.

A telephone interview was granted to the undersigned attorney for assignee by the Examiner on August 17, 2006. During this interview, the Examiner advised the undersigned that claim 1 is Allowable, and suggested that claims directed to processes and methods having the scope of claim 1 could be joined in the case and would be Allowable. Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's Assistance.

All claims have been amended to recite that the claimed/produced polymer comprises chitosan bound to two or more different polypeptides. Applicants respectfully submit that such recitation distinguishes the present invention over the cited prior art (and in particular over WO 00/11038, which Applicants have previously made of record in this case). Claims 21-22, 27-28, 31-33, 39 have been amended to conform their scope to the recitations of claim 1. The requested amendments are clearly supported by the originally filed specification. New claims 42 and 43 comprise methods claims for forming the polymer of claim 1, and are also clearly supported by the specification. No new matter has been added by any of the requested amendments.

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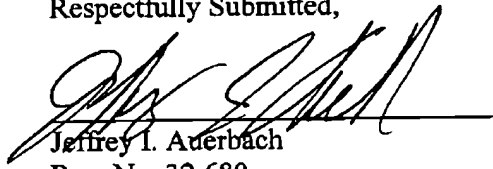
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II. Concluding Remarks

Having now responded to all of the Examiner's objections, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims of the present application are in condition for Examination, and earnestly solicit early notice of such favorable action. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned with respect to any issues regarding this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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